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Identical letters dated 31 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 30 December 2002 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the fact that the aggression being committed by United States and British aircraft against Iraq continued in the period from 18 November to 17 December 2002 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Salman**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the identical letters dated 31 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that the United States of America and the United Kingdom have stepped up their aerial aggression against the Republic of Iraq, targeting Iraqi towns and villages as well as civilian and military installations. United States and British warplanes based in the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Turkey thus violated Iraq's airspace and carried out 1,342 armed sorties in the period from 18 November to 17 December 2002, 1,170 of them from Kuwait and 172 from Turkey.

In the course of these acts of aggression, on 18 November 2002 United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Ninawa governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. On the same day such aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Maysan and Dhi Qar governorates, wounding four citizens and damaging civilian and military installations.

On 20 November 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Basrah governorate, damaging civilian and military installations.

On 21 November 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Basrah and Dhi Qar governorates, damaging civilian and military installations and destroying a radar system in Basrah governorate.

On 22 November 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Basrah governorate, damaging civilian and military installations.

On 23 November 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Maysan governorate, damaging civilian and military installations.

On 28 November 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Ninawa governorate, killing one citizen and damaging civilian and military installations.

On 1 December 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Basrah and Dhi Qar governorates, killing four citizens and wounding 27 others and damaging civilian and military installations.

On 2 December 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Ninawa governorate, wounding one child and damaging a citizen's houses as well as civilian and military installations.

On 10 December 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Maysan governorate, damaging civilian and military installations.

On 14 December 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar and Maysan governorates, damaging civilian and military installations.

On 15 December 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar and Basrah governorates, damaging civilian and military installations.

On 16 December 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar governorate, damaging civilian and military installations.

The enforcement by the United States and the United Kingdom of no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq, with the concomitant use of military force, is a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the established norms of international law and the Security Council resolutions affirming respect for Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence. It constitutes armed aggression against Iraq that has been ongoing since 1991, blatant and persistent State terrorism and gross interference in Iraq's internal affairs. The entire international community has condemned the maintenance of the so-called no-flight zones as an unlawful act, as a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the established norms of international law and as a bellicose use of armed force against Iraq's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The Secretary-General and his predecessor, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, have stated on more than one occasion that the United States and the United Kingdom imposed this measure unilaterally and that there is nothing in the resolutions of the Security Council that would authorize it.

The maintenance of the no-flight zones by the United Kingdom and the United States and the concomitant acts of aggression have been opposed and condemned by a majority of the States Members of the United Nations, including most of the permanent members of the Security Council. The Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the League of Arab States have also denounced this illegal use of force against Iraq's security, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Although the international community has condemned this daily aggression and State terrorism against an independent State, which has taken the lives of thousands of Iraqi citizens and caused enormous material losses, the United States and the United Kingdom continue to proclaim their contempt for the Charter of the United Nations and the declared wish of the international community for a halt to this aggression. The Security Council has taken no action with regard to this terrorist aggression, and this raises serious questions about the credibility of the United Nations and the Security Council and about their capacity to apply the provisions of the Charter to all without distinction and without the use of double standards or to halt the acts of aggression that are being committed by two of the permanent members of the Council and constitute a serious breach of regional and international peace and security. This bellicose, terrorist conduct on the part of the United States and the United Kingdom once again confirms that they are not worthy of the authority conferred on them by Article 24 of the Charter to act on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations in meeting their primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

The logistic support being provided to the Americans and British by one of our neighbouring States — specifically Kuwait, which has transformed its territory into a base from which the United States threatens to commit aggression against Iraq — means that that country incurs full international responsibility under international law, including liability for the payment of compensation for the losses and damage, in both human and material terms, caused by these unlawful practices.

The Government of Iraq calls for an immediate halt to internationally unlawful acts that violate Iraq's sovereignty, place its security and integrity in grave danger and constitute a direct and serious threat to international peace and security.

In the context of the responsibilities assigned to you as they relate to the maintenance of international peace and security, we express the hope that you will endeavour to halt the ongoing United States and British aggression against Iraq and that you will urge the regional parties that are facilitating its continuation to desist from doing so.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Violations of the airspace of the Republic of Iraq by United States and British warplanes, 18 November-17 December 2002

I. Northern region

In the northern region 180 armed sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

1. At 1010 hours on 18 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Jaguar and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Rawanduz, Aqrah, Dohuk, Irbil, Ayn Zalah, Baibo and Zakho areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Ninawa governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1235 hours, drove them off.

2. At 1005 hours on 19 November 2002, United States and British F-4, F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 26 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Baibo, Dohuk, Aqrah, Irbil, Rawanduz, Mosul, Ayn Zalah and Dokan areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1415 hours, drove them off.

3. At 1050 hours on 20 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Rawanduz, Irbil and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1400 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1110 hours on 21 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Jaguar and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Dohuk, Zakho, Rawanduz, Aqrah, Irbil, Ayn Zalah, Mosul and Tall Afar areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1410 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1140 hours on 22 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Jaguar and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Baibo, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Zakho, Mosul, Aqrah, Irbil, Sinjar, Ayn Zalah, Tall Afar and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1425 hours, drove them off.

6. At 1050 on 26 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Ba`shiqah, Dokan, Dohuk, Irbil, Rawanduz and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1355 hours, drove them off.

7. At 1105 on 28 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Aqrah, Sinjar and Tall Afar areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Ninawa governorate, killing one citizen and damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1405 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1200 hours on 29 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Irbil, Rawanduz, Tall Afar, Sinjar, Ayn Zalah and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1445 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1145 hours on 2 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Baibo, Aqrah, Irbil, Dohuk and Amadiyah areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Ninawa governorate, wounding one child and damaging a citizen's houses as well as civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

10. At 1030 hours on 4 December November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Baibo, Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Rawanduz and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1305 hours, drove them off.

11. At 1150 hours on 11 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out four armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

II. Southern region

In the southern region 875 armed sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

1. At 1140 hours on 18 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Jaguar and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Amadiyah, Dohuk, Zakho, Irbil, Rawanduz, Aqrah, Ayn Zalah and Baibo areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Maysan and Dhi Qar governorates, wounding four citizens and damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1235 hours, drove them off.

2. At 1000 hours on 20 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 65 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Qal`at Salih, Amarah, Samawah, Kut, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Nu`maniyah, Ukhaydir and Karbala' areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Basrah governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1450 hours, drove them off.

3. At 1000 hours on 21 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 69 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qurnah, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Rifa`i, Qal`at Sukkar, Hayy, Kut, Nu`maniyah, Aziziyah, Diwaniyah, Hashimiyah, Samawah, Salman, Karbala', Ukhaydir, Lasaf and Shinafiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1100 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1030 hours on 22 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 57 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Safwan, Basrah, Qurnah, Qal`at Salih, Jalibah, Jabayish, Samawah, Salman, Rifa`i, Afak, Rumaythah, Nasiriyah, Shinafiyah, Qal`at Sukkar, Diwaniyah, Mashkhab, Najaf, Ashbajah, Hayy, Taqtaqanah, Artawi and Nu`maniyah areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Basrah governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of

the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1450 hours, drove them off.

5. At 0805 hours on 23 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 59 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qurnah, Qal`at Salih, Amarah, Ali al-Gharbi, Shaykh Sa`d, Kut, Hayy, Qal`at Sukkar, Rifa`i, Shatrah, Nasiriyah, Jabayish, Rumaythah, Samawah, Afak, Diwaniyah, Hashimiyah, Najaf, Karbala' and Ukhaydir areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Maysan governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1305 hours, drove them off.

6. At 1100 hours on 24 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 60 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qurnah, Amarah, Qal`at Salih, Kut, Hayy, Nasiriyah, Diwaniyah, Afak, Nu`maniyah, Hashimiyah, Najaf and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1610 hours, drove them off.

7. At 0957 hours on 25 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 34 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Busayyan, Jalibah, Salman, Samawah, Qal`at Salih, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Najaf, Afak, Lasaf, Shatrah and Qal`at Sukkar areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1520 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1140 hours on 26 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18 and Tornado aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 29 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Salman, Artawi, Busayyah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Amghar, Jabayish, Lasaf, Nukhayb, Ukhaydir, Afak, Taqtaqanah, Qurnah, Samawah, Ashbajah, Kut, Shaykh Sa`d, Hayy and Diwaniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1500 hours, drove them off.

9. At 0910 hours on 27 November 2002, United States and British F-14 and F-15 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi

airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out four armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Aziziyah, Jassan West, Nu`maniyah and Nahrawan areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 0935 hours, drove them off.

10. At 1135 hours on 27 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 54 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qal`at Salih, Artawi, Busayyah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Rifa`i, Qal`at Sukkar, Hayy, Kut, Nu`maniyah, Afak, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Shinafiyah, Karbala', Nukhayb, Kilometre 160, Talhah, Rutbah South, Lasaf, Ashbajah, Shaykh Sa`d and Samawah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1600 hours, drove them off.

11. At 1115 hours on 28 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 55 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Hayy, Ukhaydir, Busayyah, Qal`at Salih, Taqtaqanah and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1430 hours, drove them off.

12. At 1200 hours on 29 November 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18 and Tornado aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 62 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qal`at Sukkar, Amarah, Rumaythah, Jalibah, Kut, Rahhaliyah, Ali al-Gharbi, Nu`maniyah, Salman, Diwaniyah, Najaf and Samawah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1630 hours, drove them off.

13. At 0615 hours on 1 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 62 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Nukhayb, Lasaf, Ashbajah, Shinafiyah, Diwaniyah, Artawi, Shatrah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Kut, Basrah and Taqtaqanah areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Basrah and Dhi Qar governorates, killing four citizens and wounding 27 others and damaging civilian and military installations. Our air

defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1240 hours, drove them off.

14. At 1000 hours on 2 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 58 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Kut, Ali al-Gharbi, Taqtaqanah, Nu`maniyah, Rahhaliyah, Jassan and Aziziyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1410 hours, drove them off.

15. At 1035 hours on 3 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 45 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Salman, Kut, Aziziyah, Hayy, Razzazah, Rutbah, Walid, Qurnah, Jalibah, Artawi, Busayyah, Nukhayb, Qal`at Sukkar and Qal`at Salih areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1430 hours, drove them off.

16. At 1100 hours on 4 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 51 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait, with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qurnah, Qal`at Salih, Amarah, Artawi, Busayyah, Jalibah, Jabayish, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Rifa`i, Hayy, Kut, Nu`maniyah, Afak, Razzazah, Samawah, Lasaf, Ashbajah, Salman, Nukhayb, Taqtaqanah, Ukhaydir, Rahhaliyah, Najaf, Mashkhab, Hashimiyah, Diwaniyah, Hillah and Shinafiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1500 hours, drove them off.

17. At 1020 hours on 6 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 34 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Jalibah, Ashbajah, Basrah, Qal`at Salih, Salman, Diwaniyah, Qurnah, Nu`maniyah, Najaf, Karbala', Ukhaydir, Amarah, Artawi and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1320 hours, drove them off.

18. At 1105 hours on 7 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in

the southern region. They carried out 28 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Ali al-Gharbi, Aziziyah, Afak, Nu`maniyah, Kut, Hayy, Hashimiyah, Rutbah South, Nukhayb, Ukhaydir, Razzazah and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1415 hours, drove them off.

19. At 1005 hours on 9 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 24 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Jalibah, Lasaf, Ashbajah, Salman, Qurnah, Jabayish, Busayyah, Rifa`i, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qal`at Salih and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1400 hours, drove them off.

20. At 1135 hours on 10 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 53 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Qurnah, Amarah, Qal`at Salih, Hayy, Afak, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Taqtaqanah, Diwaniyah, Rahhaliyah, Ukhaydir, Nukhayb and Makr al-Ni`am areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Maysan governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1455 hours, drove them off.

21. At 1225 hours on 11 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 33 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Jalibah, Shinafiyah, Diwaniyah, Qurnah, Amarah, Ali al-Gharbi, Salman, Lasaf, Nasiriyah, Kut and Mashkhab areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1520 hours, drove them off.

22. At 1400 hours on 12 December 2002, United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out three armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Jalibah and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the

legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1510 hours, drove them off.

23. At 0930 hours on 13 December 2002, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 30 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Jalibah, Ashbajah, Salman, Lasaf, Jabayish, Busayyah, Rifa`i, Nasiriyah, Hashimiyah, Qal`at Salih, Qurnah, Qal`at Sukkar, Mashkhab, Hayy, Shatrah and Rumaythah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1130 hours, drove them off.

24. At 0755 hours on 14 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 44 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Kut, Hayy, Taqtaqanah, Nu`maniyah, Ukhaydir, Karbala', Diwaniyah, Amarah, Basrah, Samawah, Qal`at Salih, Qal`at Sukkar, Busayyah and Artawi areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar and Maysan governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1130 hours, drove them off.

25. At 1150 hours on 15 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 52 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Kut, Amarah and Nukhayb areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar and Basrah governorates, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1245 hours, drove them off.

26. At 1000 hours on 16 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 67 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Salman, Lasaf, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Qal`at Sukkar, Qurnah, Taqtaqanah, Qal`at Salih, Samawah, Hayy, Nu`maniyah, Shaykh Sa`d, Kut, Ukhaydir, Rahhaliyah, Razzazah, Karbala', Hashimiyah, Ashbajah, Rifa`i and Artawi areas. These aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar governorate, damaging civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1445 hours, drove them off.

27. At 1050 hours on 17 December 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and Tornado aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 24 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Ashbajah, Basrah, Qal`at Salih, Amarah, Taqtaqanah, Afak, Kut, Nu`maniyah, Hayy, Qal`at Sukkar, Salman, Shinafiyah and Jassan areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1415 hours, drove them off.